

capital of Kitirouun by the Pat mute caliphs of 1'4'ypt, On the other side, their territory was reduced by the growth of the Hammadite kingdom of the Berbers whose headquarters were fixed in liugia. The ZiriditCH were foreed, therefore, to find it new capital at Al Mululin, They were innocent of oflennee towards Roger himself, but in niH the* Count took up the cause of a Wall of ('mho's whom the JCirid prince Ali (ni6~ lUi) chasti:icil for usurping sovereign rights. In April, ii 18, it Norman fleet of twenty-four vessels sidled into Gab&* but the troops who were Innttad were attacked suddenly and forced to regain the shipif. The war WUK prolonged for three years, when the death of Ali leaving as his heir Hasan, u boy of twelve, raised the prospects of a final blow at Al Mttluliiu At the end of June, 1123, the two iulmiruls sailed from Marsala with 300 shipH carrying ^o.cxio men. They landed on July aist on the ctMiKt ten miles from Al Mtdidk, and seized H eitHtlo called Ad Dhtuu* which commanded their {Kt'uticm. But the Vizir- the eunuch Sandal-- mid the ytmng HuHtm rouned their people to a

Holy War, and two days later made a
night march
upon Ad Uinms, drove the troops in a
disgraceful
punch to UK? whips, and isolated the
garrison of
Afl Dinuw. The fleet in vain pursued
along the
coast in an effort to relieve their
abandoned corn-
patriotK, but bad weather and the
diligence of
the Moslems; prevented them, until on
August 10th,
the Norman garrisons, reduced to the
last crusader,